

Private Journal  
Katharine Burdett  
San Francisco

September 1881  
Oct. 20th 1881

W. W. Burdett



OK  
 3.12  
 1.25  
 10.00  
 14.37

2 sack flour 3.12  
 1 fat. drill 1.25  
 Underclothing 3.38 (Private)  
 2 Arkins = 1 0.00  
 17.75  
 Smith = 14.37  
 Private = 3.38

Paid in full  
 Oct 11/16  
 at Sea

Note -  
 Ancient Egyptian Customs  
 for some of the women to wear their  
 so cut that their right breasts  
 uncovered 500 B.C. (See Egyptian  
 Princesses) This is something  
 like the custom among the Chinese  
 women of exposing this breast

R. King Agent

~~For further information  
 see page 10  
 of the book  
 "The History of the  
 East Indies"~~

Notes—  
In ancient Egypt Children  
inherited rank from their father only - i.e.  
a nobleman's children by a slave ranked  
equal with his legitimate children  
by a free woman his wives as was  
the case in ancient Persia.

In Persia the sacrifices of flesh  
were offered upon the altar &  
the gods were supposed to take  
its essence or spirit and the  
flesh was afterwards divided  
among the priest and people.



Eschschottz Bay

September 25

Went on shore in the morning  
when the tide was out so I  
could find fossil bones along  
the flat bordering the cliff.  
The bones were mostly of  
mammals - some had  
long and some short  
bones. Some were of the  
hind leg bones of a large  
animal. At one point we  
found a large bone which  
was a leg bone  
with wood shavings attached to  
it. It was for drying fish.  
Other traces of a summer camp  
were there. It had been used for  
years. Along the beach just  
below high tide line I found  
various fossil bones of the  
mammoth - Musk Ox (Pronghorn)  
and fossil Bison (Bison) bones.  
All these bones lay exposed  
on the surface whenever the  
bottom was firm enough to  
prevent their sinking from



right. The most careful  
scouting along some 3 miles  
of crumbly drift <sup>from</sup>  
failed to show the slightest  
evidence of any of the fossils having  
come from there - but from their  
broken character, and being  
abraded along one or two sides  
it is almost certain that they  
are <sup>scattered</sup> ~~scattered~~ in ice  
from the Mackenzie River, &  
dropped along here - thus  
effecting a slow but constant  
deposit of animal remains  
of a former age with drift logs  
and <sup>other</sup> vegetable of today which  
may in time become fossilized  
and afford ground for future  
reasoning. Bones of recent  
animals such as the Beluga  
different kinds of seals  
and sometimes walrus  
are also ~~not~~ deposited here  
at present to a strange

medley may result and these  
animals be thought contemporaneous  
with the much older - Bison  
mammoth here -  
Forming a thin overlying  
stratum of from a few inches  
to a couple of feet on the  
upper surface of the ice deposit  
seen & extending in many  
places for some distance  
along the exposed section was  
a layer of fine gravelly sand  
sometimes coarser & the grains  
well worn in many cases though  
in others the fragments were  
angular.  
Along the foot of the cliff could  
be seen in a number of  
places beds of <sup>small</sup> angular fragments  
of lava evidently washed out  
from parts of the same bed  
just described. This same  
angular lava, of sand  
gravel was seen in several



mostly

places along the entire length of the ice cliff. This ice appears to have a appearance which structure for some depth into its exposed surface. - On top of the cliff the surface layer of ice is mixed with dead enclosures frozen in for a few inches. In addition to the luxuriant growth of grass on the surface of the hill & its slope sometimes only a foot from the ice there was a thrifty & flourishing growth of Alder in every ravine & gully - These Alder sometimes measure 6 inches at their butt & grow 10 to 15 or more feet high. With these goes willow 8 to 10 ft high. In many places the growth of these bushes was so dense

that it was next to impossible to force a way through them.

Large flocks of *Tringa americana* were the only sandpipers seen. Pintail ducks common. - Also white-fronted and Hutchins quese common. Several Umiaak loads of natives were off during the day and brought a few ducks. - Before we returned on board they had all gone but the Capt. had brought a specimen of *Callipepla* from them which had been taken at the mouth of the Auckland R.

Sept, 9th

In the morning at 5.30 a.m. I took the cutter & went in to the native camp to the left of the main ice cliffs, where a sandy spit marked out.



The natives told Capt. M. that  
they were expecting to come for  
fish there last night and  
I wished to secure some  
if possible. I found  
~~that~~ ~~the~~ 4 Umaks waiting  
on edge viewing as Capt.  
M. - The people saw us  
coming & we all up & by  
proceeding a little to the  
they go out their line (a  
fine meshed seapkin one)  
down it a half dozen times  
with poor success owing  
to the tide being on the  
2<sup>nd</sup>; however, I obtained a  
number of Tom Cods,  
small flounders, 2 species  
of white fish - a smelt &  
a skulpin. The seine  
is about 20 x 20 x 25 long  
with the ends spread by sprigs  
sticks & the sinkers of stone &  
floats of wood - the shore end

is held by a couple then several  
poles lashed together the  
required length are pushed  
out with the outer end of net  
made fast to the end of this  
long boomlike pole.  
A long line extending to  
the outer end of net is held  
by 2 or 3 persons who draw  
the net slowly along at the  
same time a similar line  
is fast to the middle of the boom  
& is used to keep the boom straight  
and draw it along - 2 or 3  
men hold the boom well  
pushed out to keep the net  
in place and the whole party  
draw slowly for a time  
and then the pole is withdrawn  
the net is hauled ashore by  
swinging the outer end in  
shore. The sketch on the  
opposite page will give  
an idea of how it is done.



Looking about in some  
 .Kyaaks at the camp I found  
 a stick image in one of  
 them - This image was  
 hung from the top of



Seining in Eschscholtz  
 behind the main hole and  
 had the following shape  
 & appearance - It was  
 about 7 or 8 inches long &  
 3 inches in diameter

Profile view



front view



The teeth &  
 tucks on from  
 walrus teeth  
 as shown on

the opposite page the length  
 abdomen was occupied by  
 a slit armed along rock  
 side by teeth which enclosed  
 a rough Beluga-like image  
 I tried to buy this image but  
 the owner said if he sold  
 it he would die - And  
 he carried it into his  
 tent & concealed it very  
 soon after I found it.  
 After a short stay here  
 I returned to the ship &  
 we got under way to go to  
 the north side of the bay when  
 we suddenly brought up  
 on a mud bank within a  
 few hundred yards and were



forced to lay her till in  
the afternoon when we  
got off on the high tide and  
steamed up behind the  
point. Choris Peninsula  
opposite Chaminodok &  
Anchorage -

September 10th  
Prop 24. I took the Cutter  
and took a cruise  
around the north shore  
of the bay spending all  
day at it.

We found the hills along  
Choris Peninsula made up  
of talcose schist, then extending  
along almost the entire north  
side of ~~the~~ Wachscholey Bay, is  
an alluvial deposit consisting  
of black sand & ending in a  
bluff 20 to 40 feet high for  
several miles adjoining the  
Choris Peninsula. Near  
the summit of this bluff

where it was exposed by the  
crumpling of the face of the bluff  
were found scattered along  
numerous small boulders  
of ice varying in size from  
a yard in length & height to  
30 yds long & 2 or 3 yds  
deep exposed to view. These  
masses of ice were formed  
irregularly, sometimes extending  
down like roots & reaching  
down roughly wedge shape  
at lower ends. The layers  
generally cut through the  
strata of the bluff showing  
they were of recent formation  
but probably produced by the  
infiltrating of the water from  
the surface into crevices  
& depressions in the ground.  
At one place where the  
bluff had been cut by a strong  
current in a narrow channel  
from summit to base the



water had after work spilled  
in the cut between the black  
walls with white sand  
showing in sharp contrast

✓ We found along  
the surface of the  
black bluff at top a  
stratum of good  
compact peat from  
one to two feet thick for  
a considerable distance  
From this level alluvial  
deposits of black earth extend  
a series of white sand bluffs  
rising in an undulating series  
one after the other across  
nearly the entire remainder  
of the north side of the bay.  
These bluffs rose from 50 to  
150 feet high and their south  
slopes facing the water  
were nearly covered with  
alders & willows. Some  
braver grasses & sticks were

found in a cut in the alluvial  
deposit previously described.  
Some ducks, geese & loons  
were seen today.

Forward 200. We started  
back to the vessel and  
reached it about 11 PM after  
a hard fight against wind  
& tide. The sea gave fair promise  
early in the morning but  
later dull gray clouds  
shut in from the north & it  
became gloomy & cold &  
cold misty. Snow fell in the  
evening.

September 11th

The Captain gave the  
Sailors a holiday and we  
laid at anchor in the same  
place as yesterday until  
evening when we got  
under way & steamed up &  
anchored just off Repent St.



again. As we came  
up the bay we saw the  
snow mts just beyond  
the mouth of the Duckland  
R. covered on their summits  
by a cap of snow which  
fell last night - this being  
the first snow of the season.

Sept 15th - Left at 8  
early in a.m. & went  
ashore to examine the coast  
from the sand spit at east  
of the ice cliffs of Elephant Pt.  
along to west of Duckland R.  
We returned just after  
midday & reports that we  
saw several other bird  
nests (4) & eggs by the covering  
gluff facing the shore.  
We also found the ice covering  
around the shore of the  
bay near the Duckland  
R. mountains.

Capt. H. was on shore  
opposite our anchorage  
Saw great numbers of Ptarmigan  
and on the 10th inst. we  
saw many on the other  
side of the bay. Their presence  
here must account for  
the abundance of eggs found.  
The Ptarmigan are preparing  
to go farther South.

About 1.30 P.M. we were  
under way & steamed along  
the coast to the mouth of the  
Kuganik River just east  
of Cape Drecht just off  
which we came to anchor  
in the eve. at dusk  
just as we came opposite  
the low bluff at the mouth  
of the River a signal fire was  
lit by some natives on shore  
& soon after we came to anchor  
a man came off in a kayak &  
we interviewed him.



Has told us that there were  
plenty of mammoth bones  
up the Kugikuk river  
especially up 20 or 5 miles  
from the coast where it  
flows out of the mts. At this  
place there is a hot spring  
and near by are two lakes  
in which the bottoms are  
covered with tussocks and  
mammoth bones. In the  
bed of the stream are many  
others. This note is a <sup>translation</sup>  
called these <sup>the</sup> bones of the  
Kiligukuk and said  
these animals live under  
the ground & come up to the  
surface & when they breathe  
air they die & their bones  
are thus found where they  
died. He said that the  
Kiligukuk furrows out  
river beds by furrowing  
along near the surface

to creating a deep furrow  
into which the water runs  
from lakes & makes a river.  
He reports that the  
people about trapping  
one mole in the mts. near  
the hot spring and wished  
us to make a trip there saying  
it would require but a day  
to go & come & return.  
After we finished questioning  
him he asked permission to  
stop on board saying he was  
about to go on shore in  
the dark & for a little boy  
that was buried not long  
ago at the mouth of the river  
and he did not dare leave  
the vicinity in the night.  
He was so earnest about  
the matter that he was allowed  
to cruise.



Sept - Kupuruk River -

13th Leave Kotzebue Id

Early in the morning Prof.  
M. & I got off in the  
Sled boat in a cold drizzly  
weather with a fresh  
wind - entered the river  
passing a deserted village  
of 4 houses at its mouth which  
our interpreter told us had  
been deserted during  
last winter because a  
woman had died there.  
A mile or a half above the  
mouth of the stream where  
the water shallowed so we  
could get no farther  
we found the new village  
of these same people  
a place which we ~~thought~~  
saw & seemed to be a poor  
miserable set. We try  
to advance up the river  
to where the narrow point

out as a deposit of bones but  
the shallow water in the  
Creek & the dense bushes  
along the bank balked us  
and we were forced to  
return - taking a truck &  
some pieces which our  
interpreter had left here  
last winter.

These people told us that  
several umiaks Cape  
Prince & other people  
left here yesterday ~~the~~

~~the~~ morning on their  
way home from their work  
cruise along the coast here.  
A couple of hours before  
we left our anchorage  
at Gledupak an umiak  
load of these people came  
down north a large sail  
made up entirely of fragments  
of old sails & preserved  
in innumerable pieces.



forming a queer looking  
patchwork - I made a  
sketch of this boat which  
is on the opposite page.

The shower became more  
& more numerous & we  
saw no object in running  
and so turned back stopping  
at the deserted village where  
I got a skull of a man -  
then on to the vessel just  
as a nasty sea was making  
up. As soon as we were  
on board the anchor was  
hoisted & we stood on  
to the north west and rounded  
Cape Espenberg in the eve and  
stood away for Berings St.  
on our way to St. Michaels &  
thence homeward.

The weather improved all the  
day & a beautifully clear  
moonlight night ensued  
with a light frost breeze.



September 14<sup>th</sup>

## Bering's Straits

At Yarm we were passing the "bars" which is a low rounded spit back of the coast with a pair of pillars of rock rising close together on its summit whence the name of the straits. These pillars must be very large as they are very distinct to the naked eye about 30 miles distant.

A fine clear morning with fresh air and a snow storm.

A Gyrfalcon came circling about the ship this morning.

The tops of the mts. at each Cape Pribyl Volles and on east Cape showed fresh fallen snow on their summits. A 2 1/2 to 3 knot current running through the straits to the north delayed us very much so it was only about 3.30 PM

View of Cape Pribyl Volles from the West side

that we passed the Cape & stood away down the coast to the Strait of Michael. The weather fine and clear so that east Cape & the Deconade Is. and Fairway Rock

Cape Pribyl Volles & King Is. were all visible as we passed through the strait. The sky was a

muddy yellowish orange tinted with blue. The air was at 48° 54° 50° and water 47° 20° 50°.



the str. This is the  
first time a six  
passage through  
this strait this  
summer that it  
has been clear  
enough to see  
from one side to  
the other & usually  
we have been in fog  
so to see scarcely  
any distance.

Several old last  
winters snowbanks  
were seen on both  
sides of the str. today  
one large one on the  
American shore  
being close to the  
sea level.



Cal's Prince of Wales from the A.W. 5 miles  
away—

Prince of Wales





St Michael Sept 15<sup>th</sup>

Time pleasant & rather all day clear, cold blue sky and a light north westerly wind - At daylight we were leaving Sledge Is.

At 9 AM we came to anchor off St. M. - When off Stewart Island 20 to 30 miles I saw a number of flocks of Sterna fischeri and of these only one ♀ with her brood was seen. The others were males in fall plumage which is much darker than the breeding plumage.

At 9 PM we came to anchor between Egg and White Islands. A faint auroral arch with pale straw yellow curtains was seen in the north. Soon after our arrival -

St. M. - Sept 16<sup>th</sup>

Got up anchor & went in close to the fort early in the morning & I went on shore - Found everyone well and in addition to the usual inhabitants were the people from the schooner we met, were prospecting in Galovine Bay last July who we went north. A gale east, the schooner left the last of August. I and the others just returned after a long, rough trip around the Sound.

I passed the day in getting my possessions on shore into boxes & to make for my departure to the north.



Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> 1881

Got everything on board  
the "Corwin" in the  
afternoon and Capt. H.  
took on all the Capt. W.  
crew and after making  
our adieus we went  
on board and at 6 PM  
steamed away out of the  
harbor & I consider myself  
at last started toward  
civilization after a long  
separation - too long a  
separation for a man to  
make if he considers his  
welfare as I have learned by  
experience.

The row was pleasant &  
we made good time -  
but it seemed to slow.

Sept 18

Kept on our westerly course  
until 9 AM - then S. to 80° N.  
then S. by E. by day.

Made 10 knots per hour  
no head wind or a fine  
fair breeze.

We expected to land on  
St. John's Is. but the  
Capt. has changed his  
mind and we are  
going straight for St. Paul.

Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>

Keeping a southerly course  
all day for the Seal Islands  
which we hope to reach  
tomorrow. Last eve., the  
water was filled with  
phosphorescent dots which  
gave a pale luminous  
light to the foam dashed  
from our bows & sides.  
Col. Williams tells me that  
Carg. obtained a King Salmon



weighing 50 lbs. - at Golovina  
Bay this past summer.  
We also got two Emperor Geese  
there during the summer.  
the highest northern extension  
of this species to my knowledge  
is also of the King Salmon.

Sept. 20th kept on our course  
all day against a <sup>strong</sup> head  
wind & rough sea - By  
observation ~~we~~ found that  
we have lost 40 miles by a  
head current since  
leaving St. Paul's point  
today. ~~That is~~ <sup>over</sup> 50 miles to the  
N.E. of the island. ~~There is~~  
a N.E. steady current when  
the came down. have  
from St. Michael's in September  
In the evening some were  
was credited as bright  
phosphorescence which

showed in currents & ridges  
on every side & most  
plentiful about the vessel.  
Late in the eve we came too  
a wait for daylight to  
approach the island.

Sept. 21st

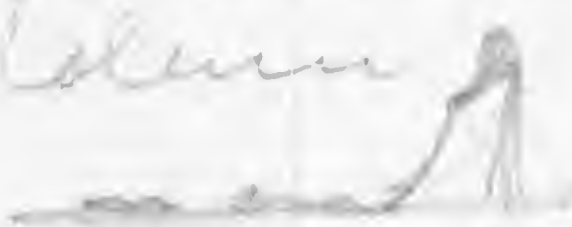
Started on at about 6 am  
in a mild rain followed by  
light snow. During the morning  
two pairs of the same sea  
and a pair of murrelets of  
fur seal were sighted  
at 11:30 am we anchored at  
a point about 1/2 mile from  
main. In the middle of  
the forenoon  
at 2 pm 73 men anchored  
off St. Paul Village and  
a boat came off with St.  
Johnstone and Capt. Norton  
and after a short talk  
they were obliged to go on shore



Again we got under way as they told us it was. becoming rougher continually and we could not spare the time to wait for fair weather. At about 4 P.M. (just at dark) we started at Kona and headed away for Unalaska. A fine breeze on our beam kept us along at 10 knots all the evening with curving fine chop waves lashing from our sides and spray flying over the horizon.

Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> Unalaska  
Made 8 to 10 knots per hour all day and at about midday began to get glimpses of the rugged fronts of the Alaskan Unalaska Is and about 2 P.M. we opened up the mouth of

Unalaska Harbor. ~~was~~  
When we drew in the head we saw numerous small whales spouting puffs of spray 15 or 20 feet into the air every few moments. Looking at a distance like a rounded column of steam.



The Priest

Forming an irregular belt right across the mouth of the harbor there were thousands of young Redpolls in the black plumage - they were so young & fat that they were frequently unable to rise from the water - and nearly all were compelled to skurry along on the surface before taking flight. Others tried to rise and after



flapping heavily along  
were forced to drop heavily  
<sup>nonchalantly</sup>  
upon the water & then try  
to dive but their buoyant  
plumage would bring  
them up like a cork  
as soon as they got under  
water - scattered among  
this amusing lot, petrels  
were a very few, a few  
Red-tails & Glaucous Gulls.  
Up to the foot of the  
of the Priest (I  
stood out clearly and  
our own land was  
on sharp angles & points  
all covered with the  
rich green fern the  
matted vegetation covering  
their flanks & to the right  
where some of the  
volcanic cone or wind swept  
ridge thrust its gray &  
brown ~~barren~~ summit

up like the towered peak  
of a monk -

At 4.37 PM. we anchored off  
the wharf in the snug little  
Harbor of Unalakleet.  
The dark red paint of the houses  
shined in the sun by the  
white light across of the  
church and a few other  
places made the front of  
the town appear very  
pleasant. Back of the  
green slopes of the steeply  
rising hills ~~slopes~~ with the  
sparkling waters of the  
mountain creek just  
behind.

Sept. 23

Fine pleasant day, nearly  
calm but the long strand of  
linear cirrus extending  
across the heavens & slowly  
thickening as the day progressed  
gave indications of an



approaching to land  
the surface of the bay  
was occasionally rippled by  
the faint breezes and  
the sun cast its  
mellow light down the  
valley and on the  
and in the distance some  
some of the Macpiza  
insignis to sit about the wharf  
with a stop now then on  
the projecting edge of a pile  
or on the roof of the warehouses  
and send forth its short cut  
loud & not musical notes  
Rams were cawing  
and whistling about cawing  
drawing corks & otherwise  
deporting themselves in a  
ridiculously comical way.  
In the P.M. I went on  
shore & stopped to tea with  
Mr. Smith wife at a C.C.  
place where I enjoyed some

very fine large meaty  
Huckelberries - with excellent  
cream produced by the  
several cows whose pasture  
on the hill slopes above the  
place gives a pastoral air  
to the vicinage. About the  
doors of many of the about  
houses about chickens and  
a flock of large tame  
hicks were seen preening  
their feathers on the side  
of the creek - fronting the bay  
or clustered along the large  
ranges occupied by the agents  
of the fur companies are the  
numerous small cottages  
of the sea Otter hunters -  
these are neat frame houses  
built by the fur companies  
& either sold outright at  
cost to the best hunters or  
else the hunters are permitted  
to occupy them rent free



with the understanding  
that the occupant will  
sell his catch of fur  
to the ~~Sompson~~ occupant  
whose house he occupies.  
These houses are all  
a uniform dark brownish  
red. The town is scattered  
all along the spit.

~~At ten~~ The evening  
was extremely dark and  
at about 8 PM. as I  
left Smith's house I  
heard a ~~very~~ decided  
report like that of a  
distant cannon. Shot  
followed by a rumbling  
noise of 3 or 4 seconds and  
a second fainter report  
like the first.

Later in the eve the  
same sound was heard  
twice more, as at first, off in  
the direction of A. Roulan.

volcano.

During last  
winter

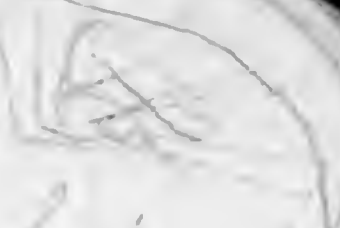
Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>

Smith tells me that he  
frequently heard ~~the~~  
reports like those I  
heard last eve, and that  
they are produced by subterranean  
shocks at A. Roulan. ~~He~~  
The last one heard on board  
last eve was accompanied  
by a ~~fairly~~ light but distinct  
thock which we felt in the  
cabin of the vessel as though  
a cannon had been fired  
close by.

The top of Makushin  
volcano showed up  
bars of snow in good  
rocky outline yesterday  
morning with a jagged  
belt of snow encircling  
it lower down & extending  
down into the several glaciers



which ~~reach~~ down its  
sides. A fierce rain  
and wind storm swept  
down through the valleys  
& clefts in the hills and  
splashed their foam upon  
the bays and whistled  
through the ~~roaring~~  
ragged masses of clouds  
enveloping around the sky  
& streaming out from the  
dark ~~open~~ with a dark and  
appearance making the scene  
gloomy & cheerless.  
Remained all day on board  
writing morning notes and  
preparing for our start on  
the home stretch.

Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> (Sunday)   
Took a 3-holed birch bark  
a couple of Aleuts and  
went up to the head of the inner  
harbor the wind blowing  
directly in our  
aces on the way up so  
we were some time  
in reaching the place  
but at last arrived at the  
head of the bay where two  
or three islands were the  
scene of with a clear sparkling  
stream pouring in a  
race ~~down~~ a couple of  
hundred feet high down  
the face of the rocks  
making a pretty scene.  
The mts. rise in sharp  
ridges along both sides  
of this landlocked bay of  
Deftain Harbor - This bay  
like all the deep bays in  
this chain of islands  
is a glacier fiord.



I got out my rod to  
try fishing for trout in  
the small stream. I  
soon found that by using  
bait (salmon roe & meat) I  
could only secure small  
trout and so I changed the  
hook for a "brown hackle"  
from my fly hook & going  
up a short distance  
I dropped it in & directly  
hooked a fine trout weighing  
about a pound. He fought  
with great spirit but  
was soon lying on the  
pattles at my feet and  
for a couple of hours  
I enjoyed the sport with  
various success. I was  
nearly getting an evening  
fellow when it would have  
been dark & almost dark  
when the sun had  
sunk in the water as it

shot back & forth in the stream  
and when he became exhausted  
a little manipulation of the  
rod would bring him with a  
run clear up on the pelted  
log in the stream.  
Fishing up to the foot of the  
cascade I then turned back  
and returned to the beach  
with my spoil just as night  
shut down over the rugged  
hillsides. As I came up  
to the house the Cutler Rush  
came in from his cruise  
in the willow and made fast  
to the buoy.

Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>

I turned my boat round over  
up into all the ash - in  
the PM - the weather became  
milder. I spent the most of  
the day on board making  
streaks from the log.



In the afternoon the acc-  
str. St. Paul came in  
from San Francisco with  
a cargo of coal and a  
few other small items. The  
Corwin hauled up to  
the buoy and we went aboard  
after tea and then left off  
our own boats.

Tues. Sept. 27th

Very pleasant weather and  
went on shore in the  
am. ~~boat~~. Warren and  
pleasant. In the afternoon  
Kins sent H. F. Co. sent  
a fine specimen of a fish  
on board. The fish was  
V. H. King, in length. It  
possessed an enormous  
fin as the photograph took  
of it will show. Kins sent  
he gave a specimen of this

fish to Dr. Bean for the Smithsonian  
last summer. We gave this  
spec. to Prof. Muir who kept it  
for the California Academy  
of Sciences.

The fish was without trace of  
scales but was covered with  
a layer of translucent yellow  
lipo tissue through which  
showed the delicately colored  
shades of gold and purple  
conspicuous. From midway  
on its side extending back  
to tail along the median line  
ran a strongly serrate  
ridge half to  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch high.  
Planted in the roof of mouth in  
the corner of the mouth in  
~~an~~ an upward direction  
from the back were two tiny  
sharp edged teeth an inch  
apart. The fish was of a dull  
dark olive or brown or black  
except on sides and under



When the color was dull  
whitish with gold & purple  
shades. The lake around  
the picture garden like  
the general.  
This makes the 3d of this kind  
of fish which has been taken  
here in the past few years.  
This one was separated  
from a group of 4 others  
which were taken together  
and I am now sitting upon  
the 5th one, and thus brought  
to a new fate upon the life.  
In the 20s, which was  
calm and pleasant the water  
sky was filled with a strange  
pale yellow light reaching  
up behind the sun. which  
stood out in sharp outline, relief  
as though drawn by pencil  
while the light wind wafted  
strange black masses of  
fantastically bordered clouds

from the head of the bay across  
the sky in a mysterious file  
of silent, shadowy forms,  
which glided by & vanished  
in the thickening shade of  
night in the east and northeast.  
The light had a peculiarly  
cold transparent shade  
difficult to describe but  
which seemed full of  
mysterious shadows ready  
to move out over the face  
of the earth on ghost wings  
at a moment's notice.

Sept 29th

Fine pleasant day with  
masses of cumulus gray  
and white mingling and  
gliding over. The bridges  
hang on the wings of the  
wind as though having a  
joyous frolic about the  
mountain tops during



The short unusual time  
of sunshine -

In the morning I went  
up & visited King's place  
[M. F. T. C.] where I  
spent some time very  
pleasantly and then after  
King gave me a knife,  
Kupak for the Smithsonian  
institution and a fine Aleut  
Kamlayka for myself we  
got in his boat & sailed up  
half way to the head of  
Captains Bay and tried  
to fish but a creek  
flowing through the mountain  
here, I followed the creek  
up with some success  
and a few hundred yds. from  
the bay was pleased & surprised  
to find myself in a narrow  
canyon whose vertical or  
nearly vertical walls  
rise from 100 to 200 ft or

more on both sides & with  
clinging vegetation growing  
luxuriantly on every fitting  
rock & snag - at the bottom  
leaps & dashes the creek  
hurrying madly over its  
pebbly bed & away it goes  
When I turned back I came  
to a beautiful little fall  
3 or 2 to 10 feet over a ledge  
barren the stream - the effect  
was very pleasing.  
The trout here but little  
inclined to bite & my bag  
was light accordingly.  
Near the bay on the small  
flap near the mouth of  
the stream the grass, ferns  
and other plants grow so  
rank that they were in a  
tangled mass, waist high &  
offering considerable resistance  
to ones progress - All along  
the banks of the creek among



the rocks in damp spots  
bunches and sprays of the  
graceful maiden-hair.  
From ornamented the rocks  
Kings wife & sister-in-law  
an Crooles from Kodiak &  
chaining to speak of the  
nations there I called them  
Indians or "dikavre" the Russian  
term for Indian and they  
repudiated the idea of the  
nations there being Indians  
(term applied commonly to Eskimos &  
Mal Indians by Russian traders)  
and said "the people there  
are not Indians they are  
Aleuts." with an air of  
offended dignity. He admitted  
however that the Kodiaks speak  
a tongue closer to the Eskimo  
of the mainland than like the  
Aleuts.

Sept. 29 -

Fair weather till we were  
rain set in & quickly  
loaded with rain & became  
pouring down upon the little  
town as though the clouds  
were let loose -  
In spite of the downpour the  
Croole made made  
their appearance at Kings  
place where he had his store  
cleared out & accepted of  
bunting & illuminations with  
dozens of lamps & with  
music produced on organ  
concertina & accordion those  
so inclined which included  
all hands) were enabled to  
make merry & dance  
a pleasant even. We went  
at 8 o'clock & returned at  
11 P.M. - After a concluding  
dance each Cavalier  
but to the fact of our  
driving through the mist to  
some community near



upon the spit.

Sept. 25th

A shrieking <sup>Sk.</sup> gale with  
hard showers of rain every  
few moments the entire day  
kept everyone weather-bound.  
The gusts tore down the hills  
so to make the vessel surge  
heavily at their swoonings  
and necessitated the  
setting up of another  
Anchor to hold the buoy to  
which we were fast.  
The appearance of the day was  
fratern white with foam  
and greenish green moments a  
'woolly' mass swept down  
and with a curved stroke  
upon the water beat up a  
cloud of spray & cast it  
high in the air as though  
discharging a wild volley

while in quick succession  
other storm spirits followed  
until the bay would be covered  
with flying spray.

In the midst of all this turmoil  
could be seen the Ravens  
(terrible storm imp. resembling  
a circling through the flying  
scud overhead. I never before  
seen mentioned the power  
these birds possess of gliding  
about in the midst of a fierce  
storm. apparently flitting in  
the whirlwinds of the scene &  
casting his black shadows over  
everything as he glides about.  
In calm weather he enacts  
the role of Pantaloon in a  
suit of black and circles  
and tumbles around in a  
jolly capering like a lot of  
collecting underlakes doing  
innumerable tricks or uttering  
quizzical chuckling notes and cries



October  
1st

Gale of wind and rain continued all day and kept all hands on foot most of the time.

2nd

Very pleasant day with scarcely a ripple on the surface of the water. Floating shades of light and each other across the hill hanging on grassy banks or bringing out a stream over which when I quaffed & splashed down the hill side toward the bay of purchase boxes itself in the back of bag of some pretty mt. lake which lies hidden up the hillsides. These lakes lie in little hollows all about on the

mt. sides & are a charming surprise to the wanderer as he makes his way toward the summit and suddenly stands on the edge of one of these pools whose surface is broken only by the poles making the summit their home or perhaps a hardy insect or in the distance of the keenest vision. A delicate frame & appears not a quiver around the border an appropriate frame for the pictures. At times the great prominence of the lake's edge are mirrored in its surface on a gentle slope of the mountain top as if its soldiers stop to drink of its cool waters.

I improved the sunshine to secure some photographs.



among the rest - I soon  
learned however - I wished  
to photograph some about  
but learned that they were  
all celebrating the day  
by being on a grand drunken  
bust. While I was ashore  
the 2<sup>d</sup> Chief came up to  
one of the O.C. men & said -  
"I was drunk last night and  
expect to get drunk again  
to night so I better go and  
tell the men you wish to  
have work tomorrow?" He  
was told to do so & shuffled away  
on his errand and on the  
road to a glorious state of  
inebriation.

The John Rodak (a coal boat)  
Rodak arrived in the eve.  
I learn from Mr. [unclear]  
the Agent of that district  
that vessel, leave Rodak  
for the mainland about

every two weeks all summer  
3d

Took the steam launch and  
went with young Evline up to  
Captains [unclear] where I secured  
some fine photographs.

We had a fine view of Makushin  
Volcano with the glacier  
extending over a large part  
of its N. & E. slopes and by  
looking up an old glacier  
valley. I got a very pretty  
view of a charming water fall  
at the end of this valley.  
During the time I have been  
at [unclear] I have seen

many signs and signs of  
very common especially about  
the falling faces & rocky  
cliffs & bluffs along the shores  
of the bay where they grow  
point to point or [unclear]  
about something like a  
Rock Noddy in its movements.



The song of this bird consists  
of the occasional sharp note and  
harsh notes - the first of which  
being the clearest & most musical  
& the others rather harsh -  
In the first part of the song there  
is a slight resemblance to  
the song of the <sup>common</sup> Song Sparrow. The song of Leucophaea  
is shorter than of Salicaria.  
The Alaskan Sparrow is also  
quite common about the  
head of the bay on the grassy  
flats & in fact wherever a  
flat area near the sea level  
covered with luxuriant  
grasses & afforded them their  
favorite shelter - Here I  
invariably found a  
pair or two; a few go two  
at a time as if permanently  
mated - No song or other  
note heard from them  
about the hills a few Yg. Bald

Eagles were seen and the day  
we came into the bay  
the Seal. In several small  
Hawks were seen just as we  
were near the islands and  
several of them came circling  
close about the vessels.  
I had a good view of them until  
the darkness came down and  
to be of the very dark coarctatus  
type. While near at Unalakleet  
birds of the same variety were  
seen from time to time.  
In the bay water and in the  
bay ice a few coarctatus  
Sea Foxes (Coarctatus) and a few  
Guillemots & a few coarctatus  
Herring Gulls & a few coarctatus  
were seen but the Swallows had  
long ago sought many southern  
haunts. The vegetation is still  
bright green except where  
opening it has a shade of  
brown or yellow - No frost



thus far and not a trace of  
any ~~grass~~ ~~field~~ ~~seen~~  
on even the highest peaks.  
The vegetation is surprisingly  
luculent upon every gentle  
slope or flat and a heavy  
growth of grass from 3 to 5 ft high  
grows so dense that one  
has difficulty in forcing his  
way through. On steep hillsides  
about the foot of projecting rocks  
large strong ferns rather than  
graceful ferns + red in the  
padding leaves or ferns + ferns  
of the rough or storm wind.  
The tubular stalks of the wild  
Peonies stand up rigid + and  
a mass of the umbellifer  
crowns presented over the  
grass + other more delicate  
plants. Willow & shrubby  
bushes about in favorable  
places.

The history of the "Red" has been  
a course to the + described  
the rage + despair + violence  
of the people when he took  
up their grass + ferns - One old  
fellow saying "If we can't have  
grass we won't hunt sea urchins"  
evidently considering the center  
as an extension of the trading  
companies - When the Bush  
visited the more eastern towns  
of the archipelago - i.e. Sanak  
and Belkovich and destroyed  
the grass + ferns the rage + violence  
of the + was described as  
indignant - but old fellow  
swearing he did not wish to  
live any longer if he could  
not have grass + ferns to  
smash + rocking + furniture  
until his house looked inside  
as though wrecked. Since then  
the "Tadiah" brings news that  
a Sanak man smoked



his own barrel saying he  
could do as well as the  
120 lb. Cauter.

Oct. 4

Fog mist in the morning  
clearing a little towards  
noon so that at 12 pm we got  
under way & with the ship  
Kadack in tow stood out  
around the Point and off  
through the fakes with a strong  
drift going like as we  
left the island's eastern end  
distance before dark.

Oct. 5

Went ashore time as to about  
noon when the wind  
blew fresh and freshened  
the day until it became a strong  
N.N.E. gale - the middle of the  
forenoon the bowsprit & boom  
were carried away by the wind  
through the breaking of the forestay

mist and rain falling nearly  
all day especially in the P.M.  
when fierce squalls came  
dashing along the sea &  
howling about the ship.

The wind & sea worked ahead so  
that our progress became  
almost nothing in the water and  
much water was shipped as  
the seas came rolling down  
upon us.

Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>

Heavy gale with violent squalls  
from E.N.E. mist and fog all  
day - Heavy head sea running  
making our progress very  
slow and keeping the deck  
covered with water most of the  
time - The ward room is  
flooded & the cabin has taken  
a wetting once or twice as  
the great green seas came  
jumping over the deck with  
a rush & swirl and found



their way through the sky  
light or down the companion-  
way. Everyone is sea sick.  
and I feel as though no inducement  
would be enough to get me  
on another voyage. Owing to  
the crowded state of the cabin  
we have to endure each others  
sicknesses as well as our own.  
It appears singular how much  
less the companionship of life on  
board to take the sickness,  
not only disagreeable but  
about sea.

The Short-tailed Albatross  
put in its appearance today.

Oct. 14th

High east wind with high  
sea still reading us off  
and preventing our advance.  
Light rain, fog and mist all  
day. Dracks under water  
half the time from the  
sea. Not - sea sick - miserable

generally - weather vile.

Oct. 15th

High east wind with heavy sea  
continued - fog, mist and  
rain as yesterday our discomfort  
unchanged and making no  
progress to speak of on our  
course. The elements seem  
to have conspired to keep  
us back. The "Gonys" appear  
to be the only ones who enjoy  
this state of affairs and they  
circle - glide & float about  
in the teeth of the gale. The  
very dense winged shadows  
of the storm. Now and then  
a small Petrel makes its  
appearance flitting nimbly over  
the waves like a sprite - the  
Angel of the deep. The  
Gonys are nearly all young  
which are seen - an adult



In light plumage is seen  
for a ~~short~~ short time at  
intervals as it takes a  
circle about at a distance  
but all which follow vessels  
are in the dark plumage -  
Those of them are all dark  
smoky brown but scattered  
among them are individuals  
varying by having a band of white  
feathers around the rump at  
base of tail. All have a  
row of or less marked  
line of white surrounding the  
base of neck & base with white  
on tail have white spots  
under each eye. 11-11-11

Oct. 9th

Heavy ENE gale - sea still  
rolling - fierce squalls of  
rain beating like a wall  
against the vessel - great  
seas sweeping the deck

and misadventured without  
any material progress on our  
course

Oct. 10th

Eastly wind blowing a heavy  
gale with heavy squalls of  
rain - Very high sea & much  
water coming aboard causing  
fading of the ship in spray  
and washing the decks fore  
and aft.

Rudder rope parted in the  
afternoon & a new set had  
to be put on - Laid to  
nearly all day with the  
jibble hanging about &  
everything in the cabin as  
for the past week executing  
a devil's dance -

Oct. 11th

ENE gale falling in PM -  
Hudders still running high  
with rain at intervals



153

Through a break in the clouds  
in the morning we got a  
glimpse of the blue sky in  
which were floating small  
cottony patches of Calvus  
Cirrus clouds. Our raised  
expectations however  
were dashed in the afternoon  
by the wind rising from its  
old quarters once more.

Oct. 12

Wind a fresh ESE breeze.  
Cloudy all day to mention  
the weather forces us to keep  
off to the E by N. toward Vancouver  
Is. where we will have to put  
in for more coal unless  
we get more favorable weather  
before long.  
The barometer rising - 30.1 in

Oct. 13th

Fresh breeze from SE x E, to E,  
a moderate head sea and  
cloudy all day -  
Holding on our course  
toward Puget Sk. -



Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>

Wind easterly, 2000 and variable  
to calm. A long regular  
swell rolls in from the  
S.W. Cloudy and pleasant  
all day. For the past few  
days a phosphorescence has  
been visible in the water  
& most marked tonight  
when a long wake of light  
trailed out astern and  
broke in creamy foam  
from the bow.

A solitary duck was  
seen for a short time  
about noon as it took  
a single circuit then was again  
standing on our corner  
again.

Sat. Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>



Sunday Oct. 16<sup>th</sup>

Mist and rain nearly  
all day with extremely  
light to calm wind.  
A squall with rather  
heavy rain from W. in eve.  
A flock of large snipe  
or plovers were seen  
at a distance today  
about noon.

Monday Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>

Cloudy weather with  
mist and rain all day.  
Strongly wind rising to  
a gale in middle of day  
then falling in eve.  
Steaming steadily on our  
course.



Tues. Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>

Mild weather with southerly  
westerly fresh winds. Very  
accompanied by some  
rainy showers & squalls  
of rain.

Made 30 in line and we  
are drawing in close  
to the coast. In the  
evening much more phosphorescence  
was visible upon the  
sea than had been seen  
before since leaving the  
Aleutian Is.

Wed. Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>

The morning opened bright &  
pleasant with the sun out at  
intervals. About 8 am we  
passed a schooner bound up  
the coast and a little later  
saw the smoke of a steamer  
off on the port bow. This  
was bound down the coast  
evidently as the smoke gradually  
drew ahead of us & widened  
the distance.

Birds seen as follows:

A small Black Petrel with  
white rump. With a few

*Onychoprion leucorhoa* (Leach's  
Petrel) also a pair of *Tringa*  
*l. f. tenuirostris*

At the same time from the Aleutian  
Is to 80 to 90 miles seaward  
a large flock of 500 specimens  
of a White-bellied Gull  
abundant. Close to description  
of *Oceanodroma hornoyi* were  
seen.



This morning several gulls  
(*L. glaucocephalus*) were seen  
from time to time -  
Goose *Branta brachyptera*  
still follows us but less  
numerous than before we  
came so near shore.  
In the afternoon a single  
immature *L. delawarensis* was  
circling about and a pair  
of *Mergus* were seen  
in the water a short distance  
away.

Evening as we all saw a large  
Albatross a fourth larger  
than the ~~shear~~ Gony and  
of a uniform darker brown  
than the latter except for a  
white ring at base of bill and  
the pale waxy yellowish of  
the bill which shows  
conspicuously at a distance.  
This is the ~~young~~ of the same  
species is seen about

The Aleutian Is.  
Several *bernardinus* seen  
in P.M.  
Several vessels were  
seen during the day & again  
in P.M. until about 4.30 P.M.  
When a dense fog shut  
down.

A large black species  
of Petrel which was seen  
a number of times during  
the trip down can be no  
other but *Prochora melanura*.

→ This is probably *Fulmarus giganteus*

And a few Fork tailed  
Petrels were seen near  
(within a few hundred miles)  
The Aleutian Is.  
One or two other species  
were seen at too  
great a distance to get  
any idea of their identity  
~~first before the fog shut~~



~~Day in the PM~~

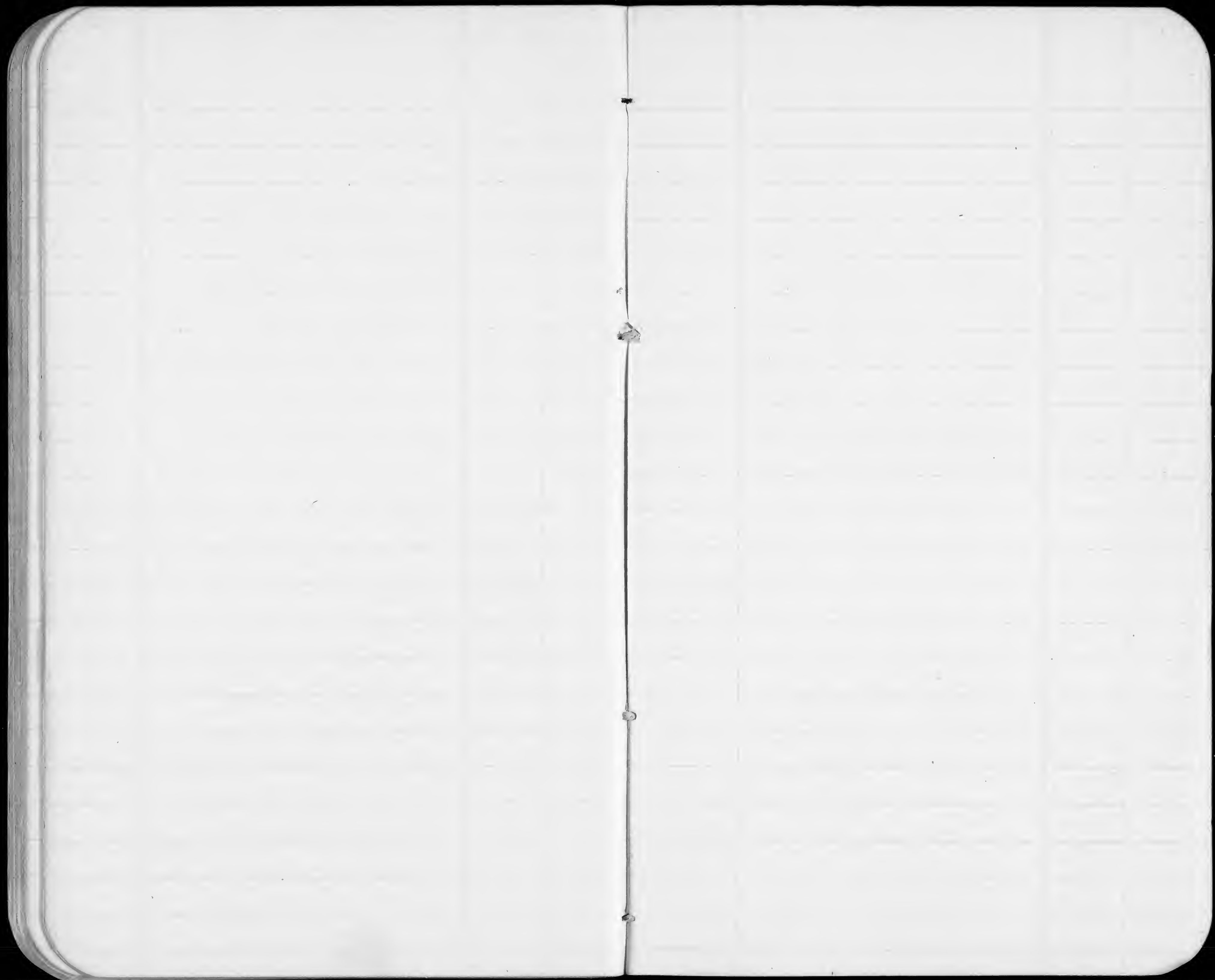
A dense fog came on in the even & lasted from just before 5:00 to 9:00 - when it broke away - we got into 2-3 fathoms of water off Humboldt Bay & then steamed out around Cape Mendocino light, which we saw very distinctly after the fog lifted, and kept on our course to the Shell night - The water was filled with phosphorescent animals 1/4 inch in diameter which showed more brilliantly than I have ever seen before. The curving swell which was thrown up by the bow appeared as a thickly with pearls & dots of rich light which at times flashed out in great beauty & richness -

The stars shined down a clear and gentle rain on by head and pupils showed conspicuously brilliant high above Orion -

Thursday Oct. 15th

The sky remained clear until the middle of the day and we could see the Coast at a distance of 10 or 12 miles its hills crowned with a heavy growth of Redwood whose rounded tops could be made out with the naked eye and seen when a column of smoke rising in the calm atmosphere showed where a mill or settlement was located. Later a dense fog shut down & hid everything for the rest of the day -







The summer of 1880 the  
Corwin travelled over 600 miles  
inside the Circle and  
the present (1881) season  
she has made only 600 miles  
therein. - 12 miles below all

Corwin's ground in the Arctic  
subline of <sup>peak</sup> ~~ice~~

When the party was landed  
off Koluchin Is - it was  
on the 2nd June - a  
great snow storm - The  
same day a short time after  
midnight in ice the  
rubber was carried away  
at 4 PM - they were landed  
on a shore belt of heavy ice  
15 to 20 miles wide -  
The ice was about 30 ft high  
along edge, 5 ft thick - Cutter  
dingy & skiff boat the first  
towing the others, the dingy

led the dory on the shore  
the sleds - etc



The summer of 1880 the  
Crown travelled over 600 miles  
inside the Circle and  
the present (1881) season  
she has made nearly 600 miles  
therein. - 12 miles in a

Circuits found in the Arctic  
sublime of <sup>peak</sup> ~~mountain~~

When a party was landed  
off Colindale - it was  
on the 2nd June - a  
violent snow storm - The  
same day a short time after  
midnight in early a.m. the  
sudden was carried away  
at 4 P.M. - they were landed  
on a shore of heavy ice  
15 to 20 miles wide -  
The ice was about 50 ft  
along edge of pack - But  
strong & stable for the first  
to among the others; the de

had the dog on the Kintook  
to sleds -

Ceremony observed at the  
killing of the first Walrus in  
spring among the Coast Chukchi  
at Cape Walatarran Taptan  
Village (near Cape Sledge) as described  
by Lt. Reynolds. The ceremony  
took place the first of June.  
Several boats (bidarra) went out  
among the floating ice when the  
savage or notes of the bulls were  
first heard - all the men taking part.  
They were gone until midnight  
& returned successful. The  
flesh of the walrus was divided  
pro rata among all the hunters  
and thus equally throughout the  
village. Except that the owner of  
the boat killing the animal was  
entitled to the head and skin.  
After the division all gathered in the  
chiefs hut & the Walrus head was placed  
in the centre & the chiefs youngest  
son took 3 pieces each of kidneys  
fat and <sup>seal</sup> meat & placed them  
in the Walrus' mouth. Three other  
pieces were then taken and cast

in different directions.  
This was followed by a speech  
from the Chief who then took  
five pieces each of the fat & meat  
and going, attended by the people  
to the meat cache outside  
cast four of the pieces to  
the 4 points of the compass  
& the fifth piece was cast down  
into the centre of the cache  
the 3 lights.

Everyone was then given a piece  
of fat & meat to eat on the  
spot including the "Corwin"  
people and the ceremony  
was at an end.

Reindeer milk is cooked  
and eaten and also the  
bulbous root of some  
plant.



11 NW (true) Current of  
nearly a knot an hour  
along Coast of Siberia  
NW of Cape Wankarem  
Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup>

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Aug. 10 - at Pt. Barrow  
Lat. 70.21 Long. 178.55  
current NW.  $1\frac{1}{4}$  knot per hour

---

Aug. 17 - at Pt. Barrow  
ENR Current around the  
Point  $1\frac{3}{4}$  knots per hour

---

Current of 30 fms  $E\frac{3}{4}N$  (true) along  
coast to head of Pt. Hope Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> noon  
to 20<sup>th</sup> (noon)



